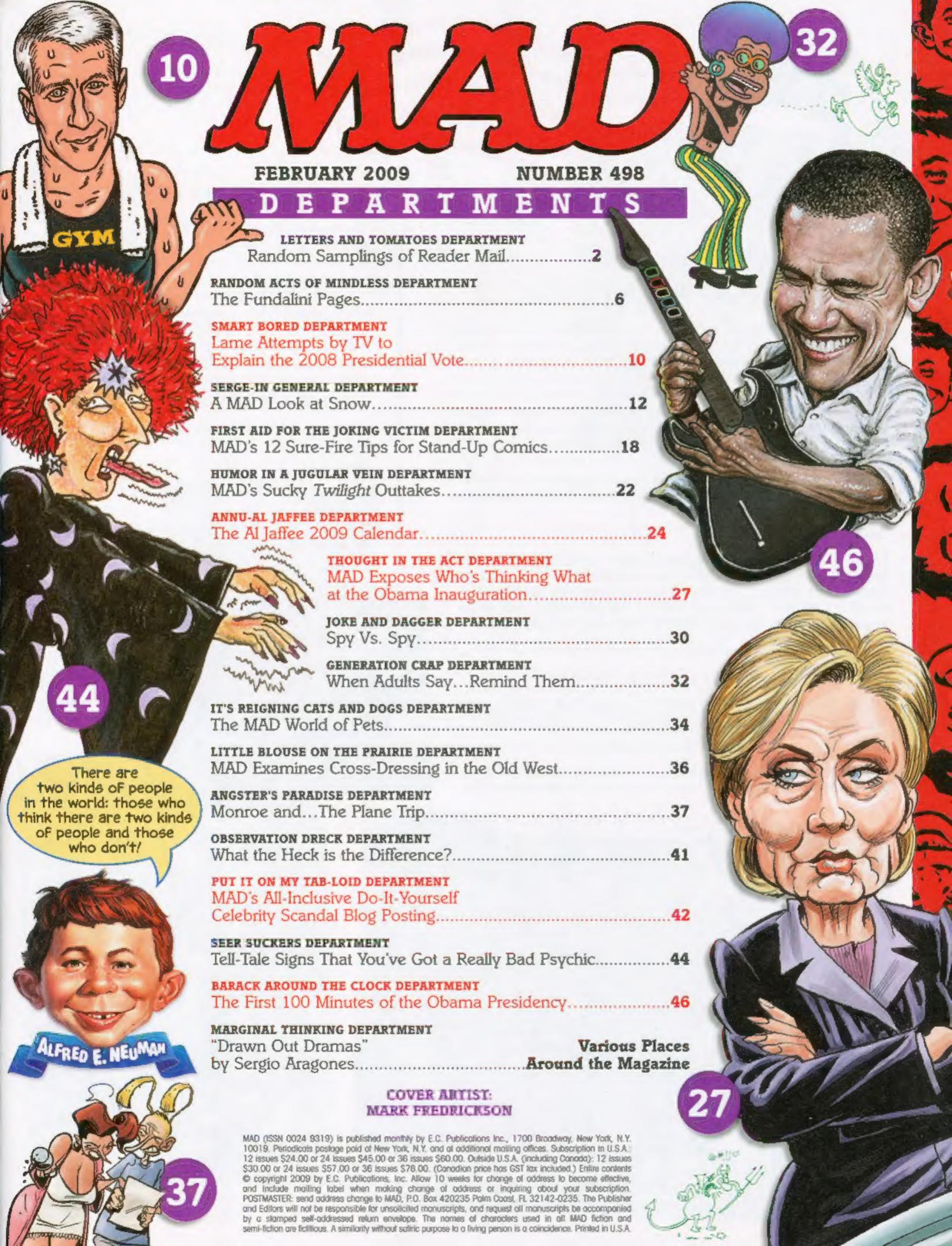


A NEW GENERATION A NEW DESTINY watch DEBUTING FULL NEW EPISODES PLUS a NEW episode FRESH from JAPAN every week!

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STOP, BOOK AND LISTEN

I went to my local library today and decided to get a few MAD magazines since I was saving some money to get presents for Christmas. I went over to the magazine section and the magazines were gone! I went to the front desk and asked the librarian what happened to them and she said, "What do you mean?" She walked over to the section and looked around but there was only the new issue of MAD on the rack. She said "I'm not sure where they went" and walked back to the front desk. I was depressed that I wouldn't get my daily dose of MAD(ness) so I started looking at other magazines. I found a small box labeled "U.S. history" in the corner and when I checked inside I found the magazines! I never realized MAD was so influential! Hopefully if you post this I can have a piece of U.S. history for myself.

Tad Becker, Ottawa, IL

Tad To The Bone — Yeah, that IS a weird place for MAD to be, and yet, oddly enough, that's exactly where it should be, according to the Dewey Decimal system. That's why you'll find MAD Kids in the "Automotive Repair" section and MAD Classics in "Gay/Lesbian Studies." You don't want to know where they keep Al Jaffee's Snappy Answers to Stupid Questions books! - Ed.

WEDDED DISS

For our wedding invitation, we used art fashioned after MAD's Fold-in. We thought the staff would enjoy seeing it — our best to Al Jaffee!

Cindy Hodgson and Barry Halkin, Havertown, PA

Cindy-and Jones and Barry the Cable Guy — Congratulations on your wedding!

without it. But my question is, when are you going to have any funny comic strips or something that relate to hockey? You guys always seem to come up with other things that relate to movies and the hottest things on the market, not to mention the presidential election. But I'm getting so sick and tired of hearing about it! My favor to ask from you guys is, could you please put some hockey comics or print some hockey jokes? Travis Mathe, Plover, Wisconsin

SHUT THE PUCK UP

Mathe Lab — Here's a hockey joke for you:

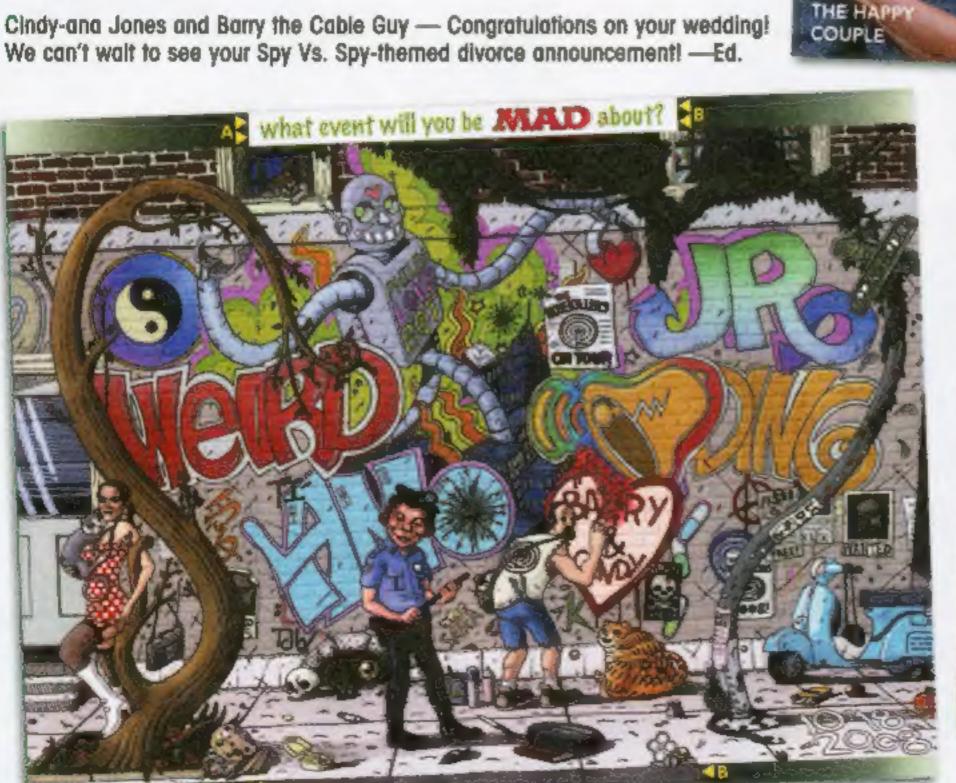
Knock Knockl

Who's there?

Hockey!

Hockey Who?

Hockey is a terrible sport. Maybe that's why MAD never does any articles on it! —Ed.





ARTWORK BY: TRISTAN WRIGHT

STUDY AS SHE GOES

I am in the 5th grade and in Hebrew school. Could you please please help by giving me an excuse to stop Hebrew school or regular school for that matter? P.S. Mazel toy!

Zach Segal, Palo Alto, CA Zach Of All Trades --- That's easy! For regular school, just say "My dog ate my homework." For Hebrew school, try "My dog noshed on my homework!"

Enjoy the free time! —Ed.



ALFRED E. LOOK-A-LIKE

Allow me to introduce my cousin Jed. He has been ridiculed by his extended family for the past 10 years for his resemblance to your illustrious mascot. Hopefully

getting his mug in the Letters and Tomatoes department will earn him the place in history he deserves.

Curtis Cook, Ontario, Canada

Common Curtisy — We're almost positive getting his mug printed here will keep him pretty much unknown and unpopular, which is the place in history he deserves! -Ed.



JED E. NEUMAN

MAGNUM POEM LAUDE

MAD ABOUT MAD MAGAZINE

When folks ask me what is my favorite magazine? I turn and run away. For if I told them the awful truth. they would think I was surely deranged!

For I am a 62-year-old lady who recently graduated from a well-known college. I should have better taste after four years of knowledge!

But I'm mad for MAD Magazine and will always be. So keep it coming because your number #1 fan since 1956 is me!

Irene Brodsky, Proud 62-year-old recent graduate, Brooklyn College, Class of 2007

It Ain't Easy Being Irene — You should be very proud of yourself, but we're going to guess that your major wasn't in poetry! See ya on the unemployment line! —Ed.

MAD CELEBRITY SNAPS

Here is a photo of our recent encounter with John Hodgman ("PC" in the Mac ads). He was signing his book, More Information Than You Require, in an Atlanta bookstore. Imagine his horror as I explained to him how he made the top spot on your list of "50 Worst Things About Advertising" (MAD #482).

James Klausmeyer, Roswell, GA

Santa Klausmeyer — Looking at your picture, he isn't as annoying without that goofball Mac guy from the commercials standing next to him. We'd write more, but our PC keeps freezing! Congratulations on your three-year subscription! -Ed.





A REAL ROB STORY

My mom's (AND MY!!!!) car got stolen. Two days later, I got my first MAD magazine. It made me laugh so hard I forgot that I had to use my rental or bike if I wanted to get around. Keep being hated by everyone who isn't funny.

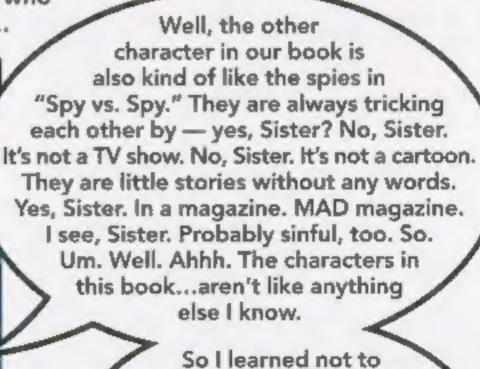
Nick Papajcik, Edwardsville, IL

Big Papa — Wait, we're confused. Your car got stolen and then you got an issue of MAD? Was that part of your insurance settlement? You may want to look into Geico — they probably would have gotten you an issue of MAD Classics as well! Thanks for writing and happy biking! —Ed.

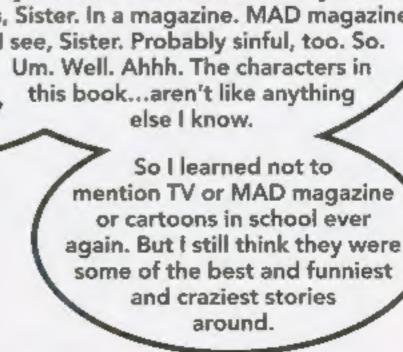
MAD BLURBS

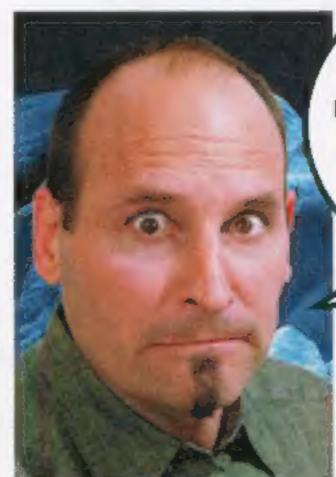
You wouldn't suspect it from his success as an adult, but award-winning children's book author Jon Scieszka read MAD when he was a kid! In his new book, Knucklehead, he shares stories about growing up including trying to explain what MAD

is to the displeased nuns who taught him in grade school...



around.

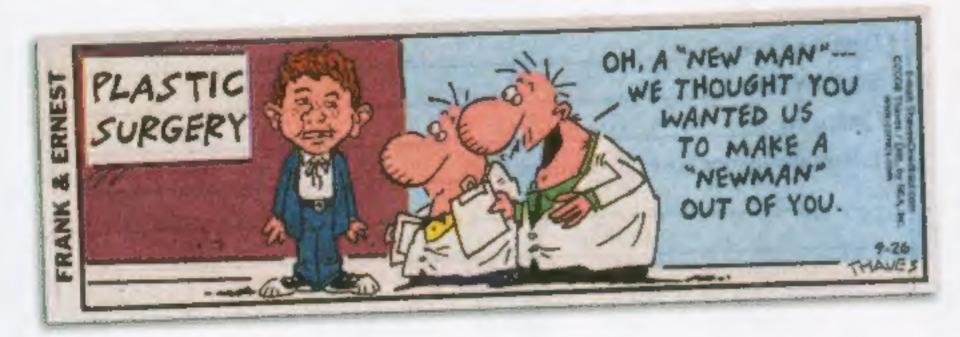






STRIP TEASED

Sharon Helms-Dulin of Reidsville, NC sent us this hilarious, yet poorly spell-checked, comic strip about our mascot Alfred E. NEUMAN. You know, we'd expect this kind of sloppiness from "Funky Winkerbean," but not you, "Frank & Ernest"...not you.



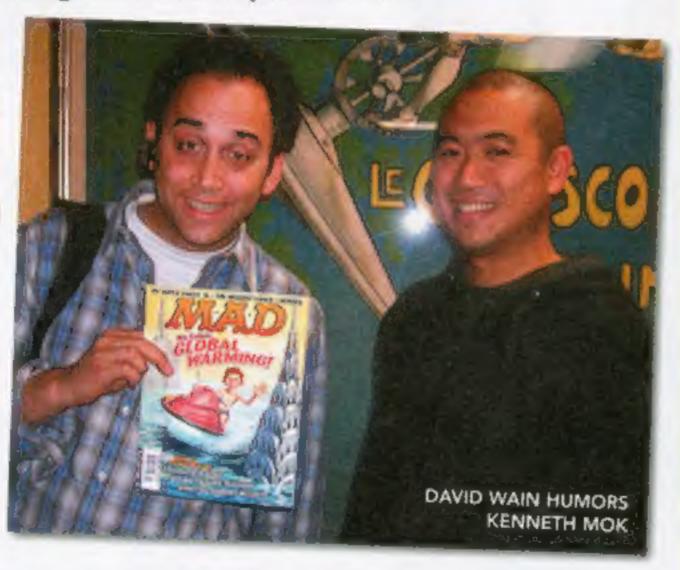
MAD CELEBRITY SNAPS II

David Wain (Stella, Role Models and The State) dropped by my previous workplace while editing his movie trailer for The Ten. Although Mr. Wain was ready to bounce to his next A-List, Hollywood meeting, he had time to pose with MAD.

Kenneth Mok, Burbank, CA

Mok It To Me— Is that a Bluetooth on his ear? Wow! He really IS a big mover and shaker! And by the by, why is it your "previous workplace?" Did you get fired for constantly harassing celebrities to take pictures with you and your MAD? Congrats on your three-year subscription! —Ed.







READER ALERT

Readers who had their letters printed in this month's issue will receive the game 20Q The Simpsons courtesy of our friends at Radica Games. For those of you who weren't so lucky, don't have a cow man, it's on sale now!



COMING UP IN MAD #499

A THRILLING LOOK AT THE NEW TRUMP DEBACLE, DEAD CELEBRITY APPRENTICE!

COMING UP IN MAD KIDS #14

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN KIDS LIVE IN THE WHITE HOUSE! MIRANDA COSGROVE INTERVIEW!



William M. Gaines founder

John Ficarra editor

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Charlie Kadau, Joe Raiola,
Jonathan Bresman senior editors

Amy Vozeolas, Dave Croatto associate editors

Dick DeBartolo creative consultant

ART DEPARTMENT

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Patricia Dwyer associate art director
Ryan Flanders assistant art director
Doug Thomson production artist
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CONTRIBUTING ARTISTS AND WRITERS

the usual gang of idiots

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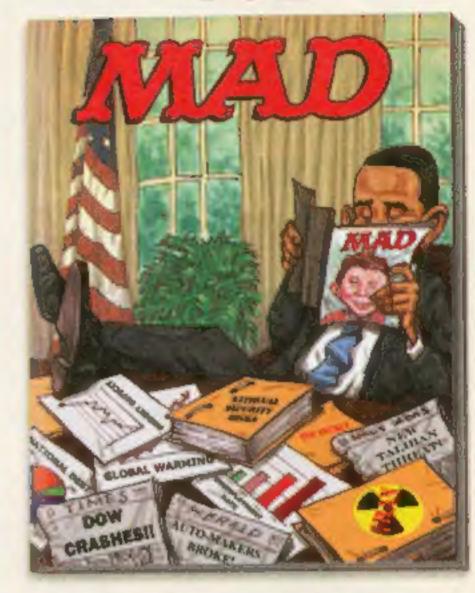
THE FUNDALINI PAGES

SOLUTION TO LAST MONTH'S "MINI-MYSTERY"

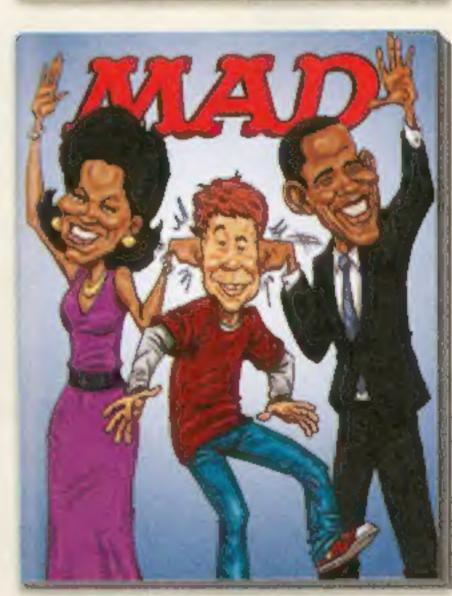
Constable Dowd pondered the clues and the suspected killer. Soon he was picturing Yvette, the tall, shapely French maid of Morley Manor. She wasn't the killer; she wasn't even a suspect. He just enjoyed picturing her in his head.

NEXT MONTH: "The Snake in the Trousers"!

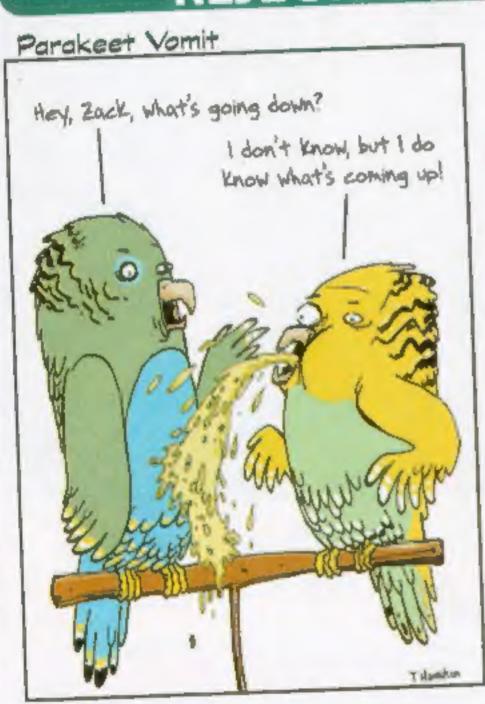
COVERS WE DIDN'T USE

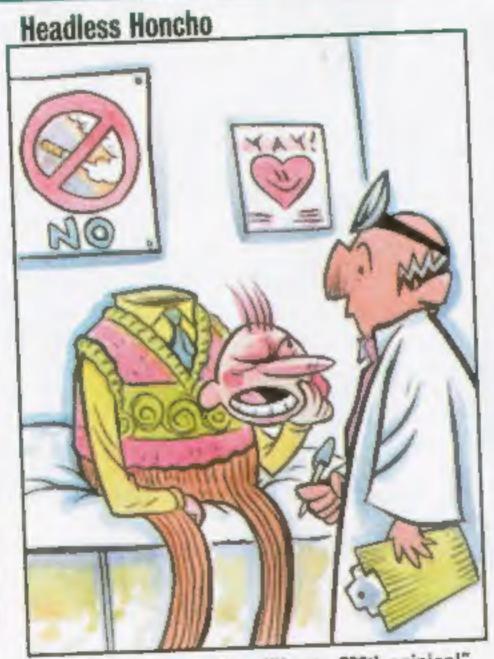






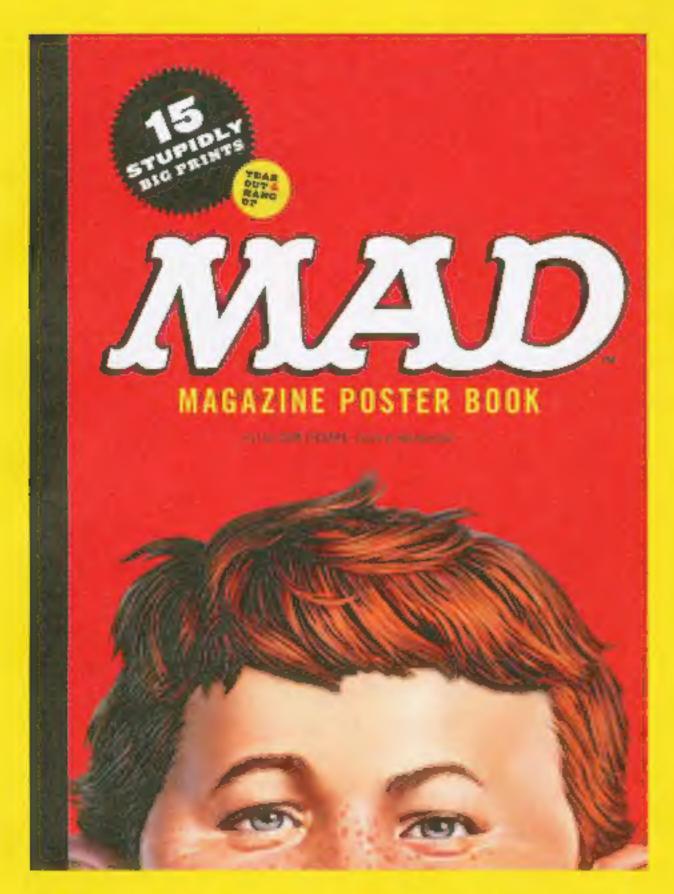
REJECTED COMIC STRIPS

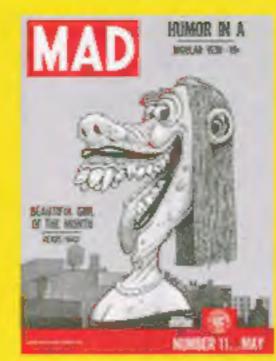


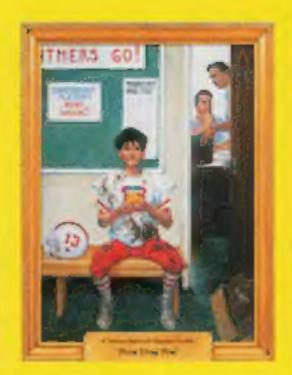


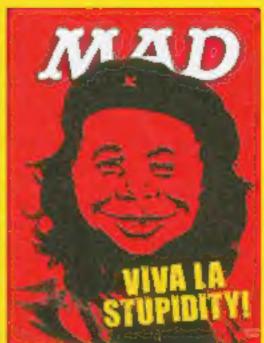
"Oh yeah? Well I believe I'll get a 739th opinion!"











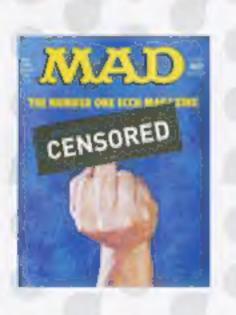
COOL KIDS ARE

DOING IT!

SPECIAL GIVEAWAY AND CONTEST!

By The Usual Gang of Idiots at MAD Magazine

The Usual Gang of Idiots at MAD Magazine is gleefully proud to present some of the wackiest, most satirical, and funniest art from their archives in a brand-new format. This collection of posters gives millions of MAD fans hilarious prints in one innovative, oversized package (imagine a really big postcard book) for the same price as two or three individual posters! The best illustrations from over 50 years of the magazine's storied history are beautifully reproduced in full color, from "Spy vs. Spy" to the works of Don Martin to pieces from the MADropolitan Museum of Art. Sized perfectly for standard framing or for hanging on a dormroom wall, these posters are a MADgical addition to anyone's decorating plan.



Be one of the first 200 to buy the MAD Magazine Poster Book at chroniclebooks.com/madposterbook and receive an original #166 "Finger" issue (pulled from newsstands in 1974!) with Certificate of Authenticity signed by Editor-in-Chief John Ficarra.

Also, check out our blog for a chance to win a set of limited edition Spy vs. Spy bookends! chroniclebooks.com/blog





Comedy is a tough business. Take it from us — as a comedy magazine, we know a thing or two about comedy! Actually, we know just a thing about comedy — that it's a tough business. We also know that stand-up comedy is particularly tough! Okay, so technically, we know roughly one-and-a-half things about comedy. Still, in an effort to learn more, we fully intend to read...

MAD'S SUREFIRE SURSFOR STAND-UP STAND-UP COMICS

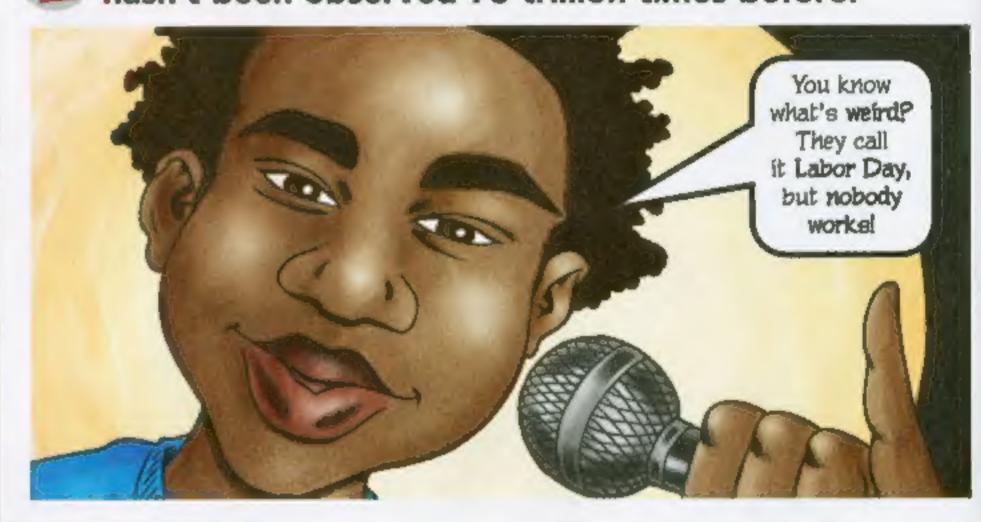
1 Keep all political humor current



2 Observational humor only works when it hasn't been observed 73 trillion times before.

ARTIST: RICK TULKA

COLORIST: RYAN FLANDERS





Carve out a unique niche for yourself that no one else has tried.

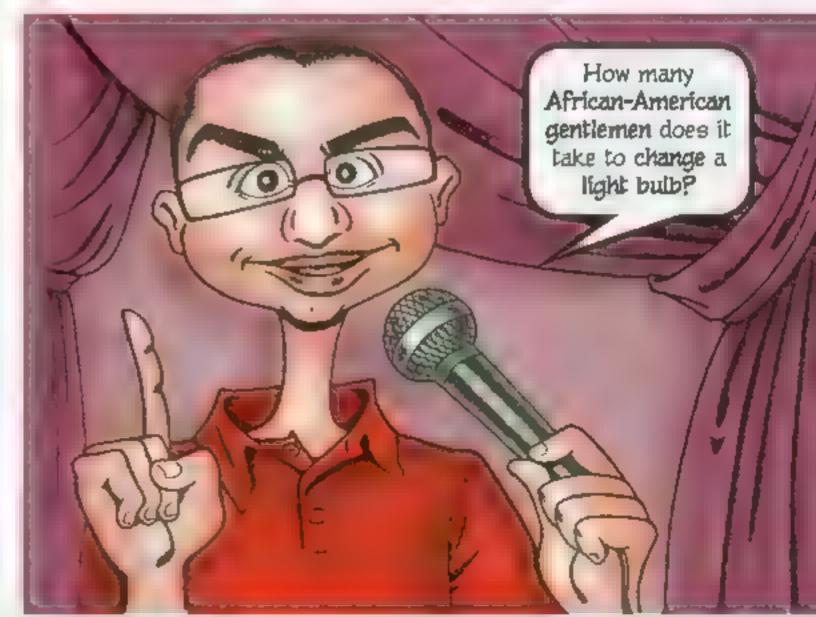




6 It's possible to be too creative



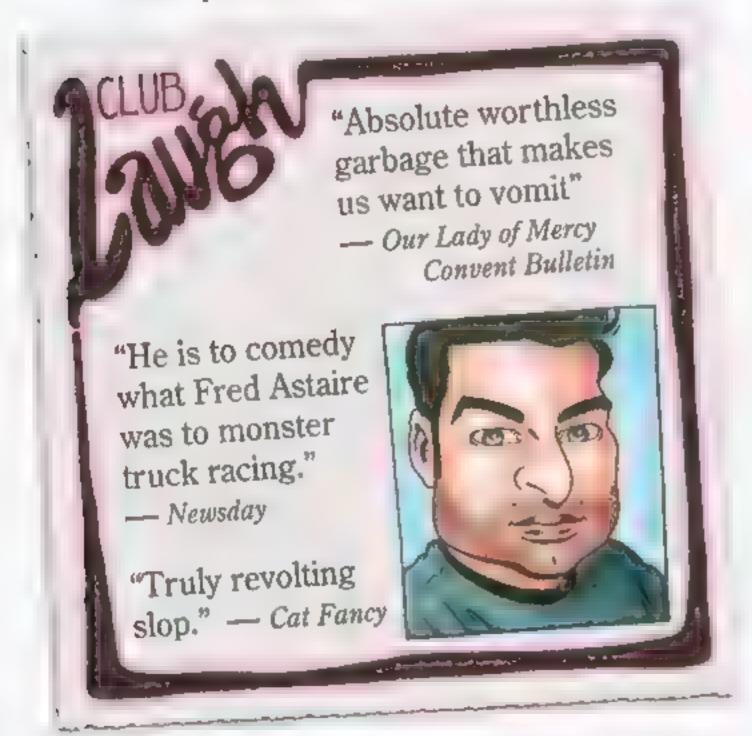
7 Racial jokes are racial jokes, no matter how you try to soften them.



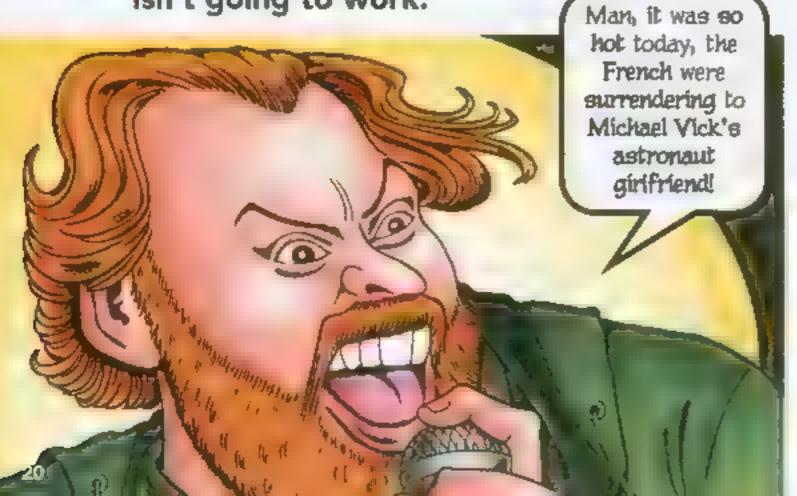
8 Don't underestimate your audience's intelligence.



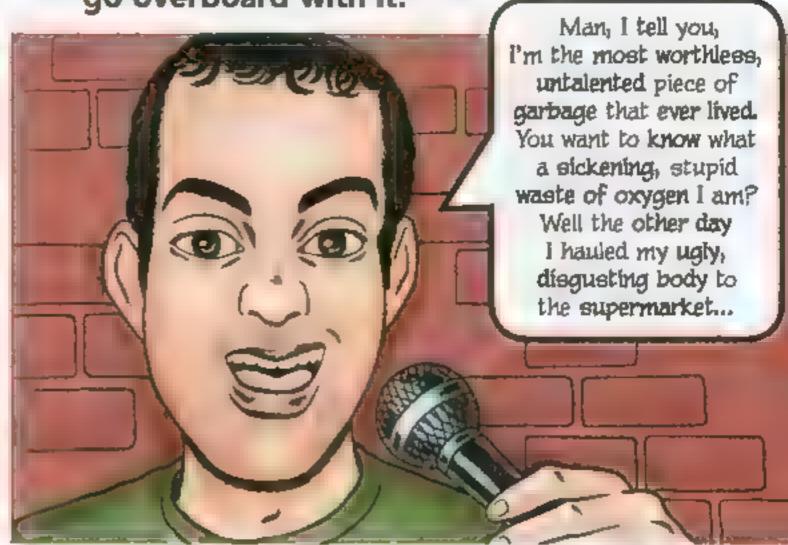
When advertising for your show, it's generally best to only include positive critic quotes.



Simply throwing out pop culture references with no context isn't going to work.



1 Self-deprecating humor is usually successful, but don't go overboard with it.



12 Doing comedy for a cause is great, but choose the cause carefully.







An important message from MAD's Director of Business & Development,

JEFFREY LOZENGE

It was once said, "Don't shoot until you see the whites of their eyes." It was also once said, "Don't shoot!" And it was also once said, "Please pass the chicken gravy."

My point is that people say a lot of things. And I say a lot of things too, for example, everything I just said. Which brings me to MAD — yes, MAD — the magazine whose time is and was and continues to be — also says a lot of things. But the less said about that the better.

Someone else who wasn't me once said, "Give me liberty or give me death." Whoa Nellie! (This is me talking again, not that other guy who wasn't me.) Who wouldn't choose liberty over death? That's a no-brainer!

"Give me liberty or give me MAD!" That's a tougher one. But thanks to the brave soldiers of the American Revolution you don't have to decide!

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Visit www.madmag.com or call 1-800-4 MAD MAG

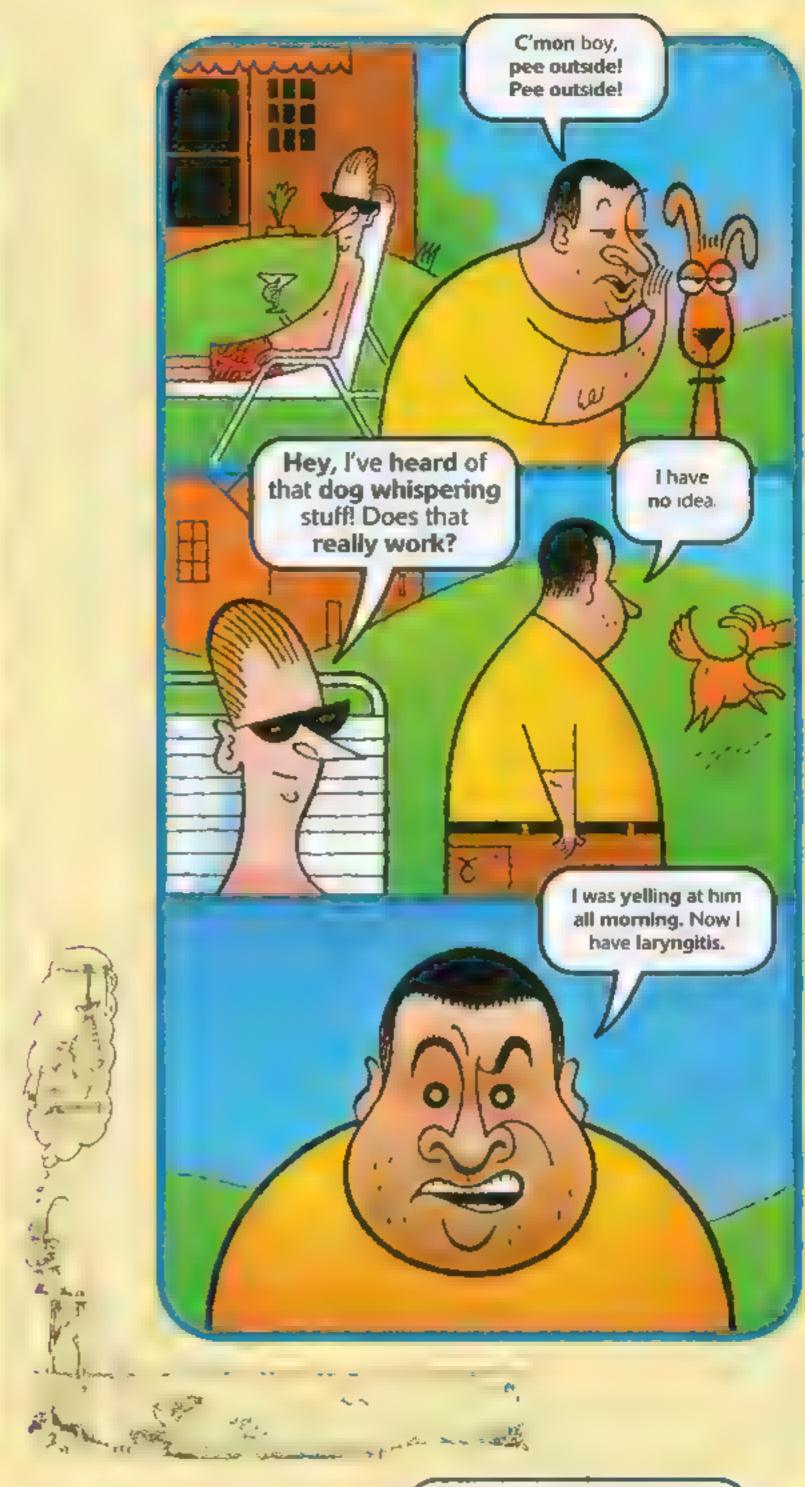
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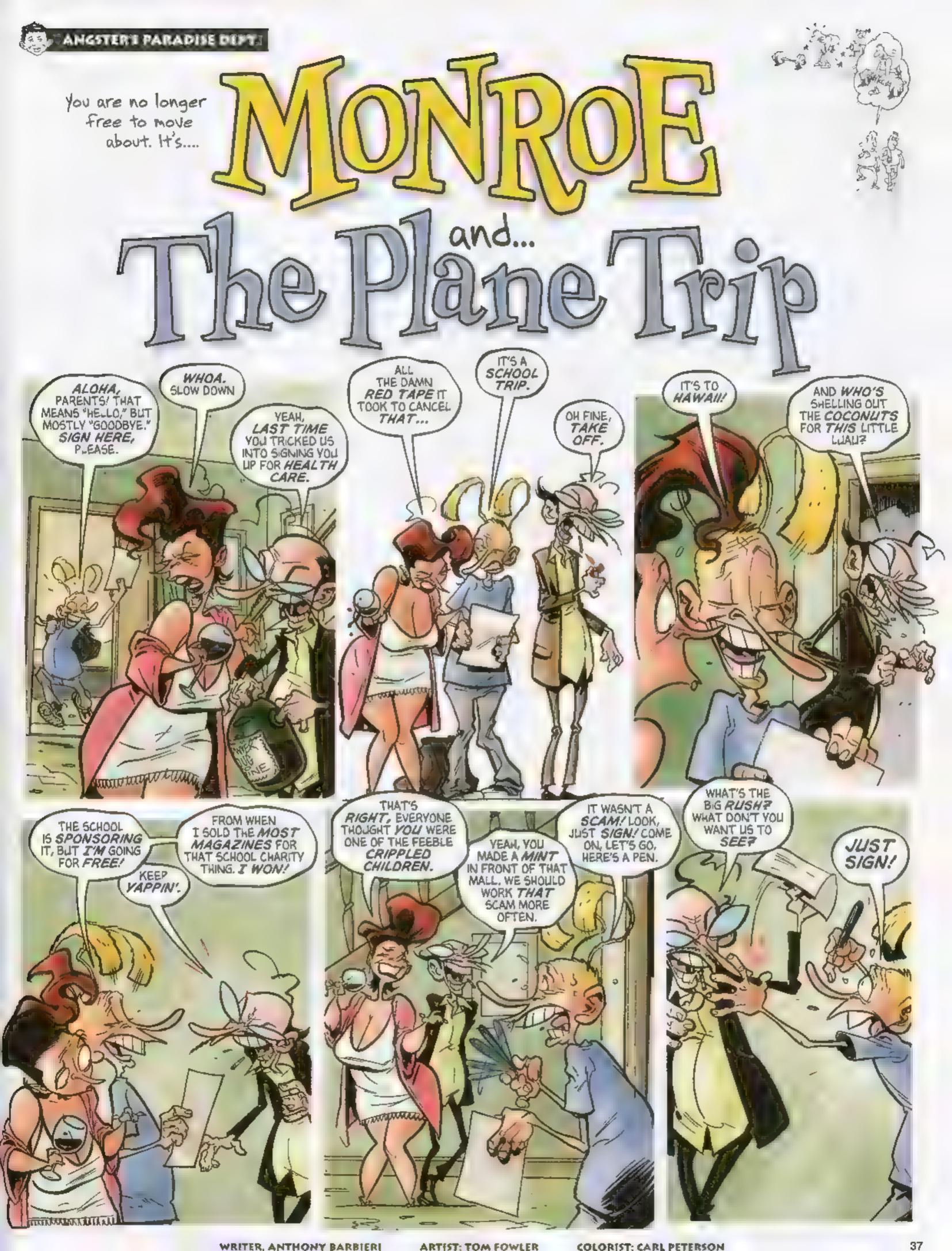
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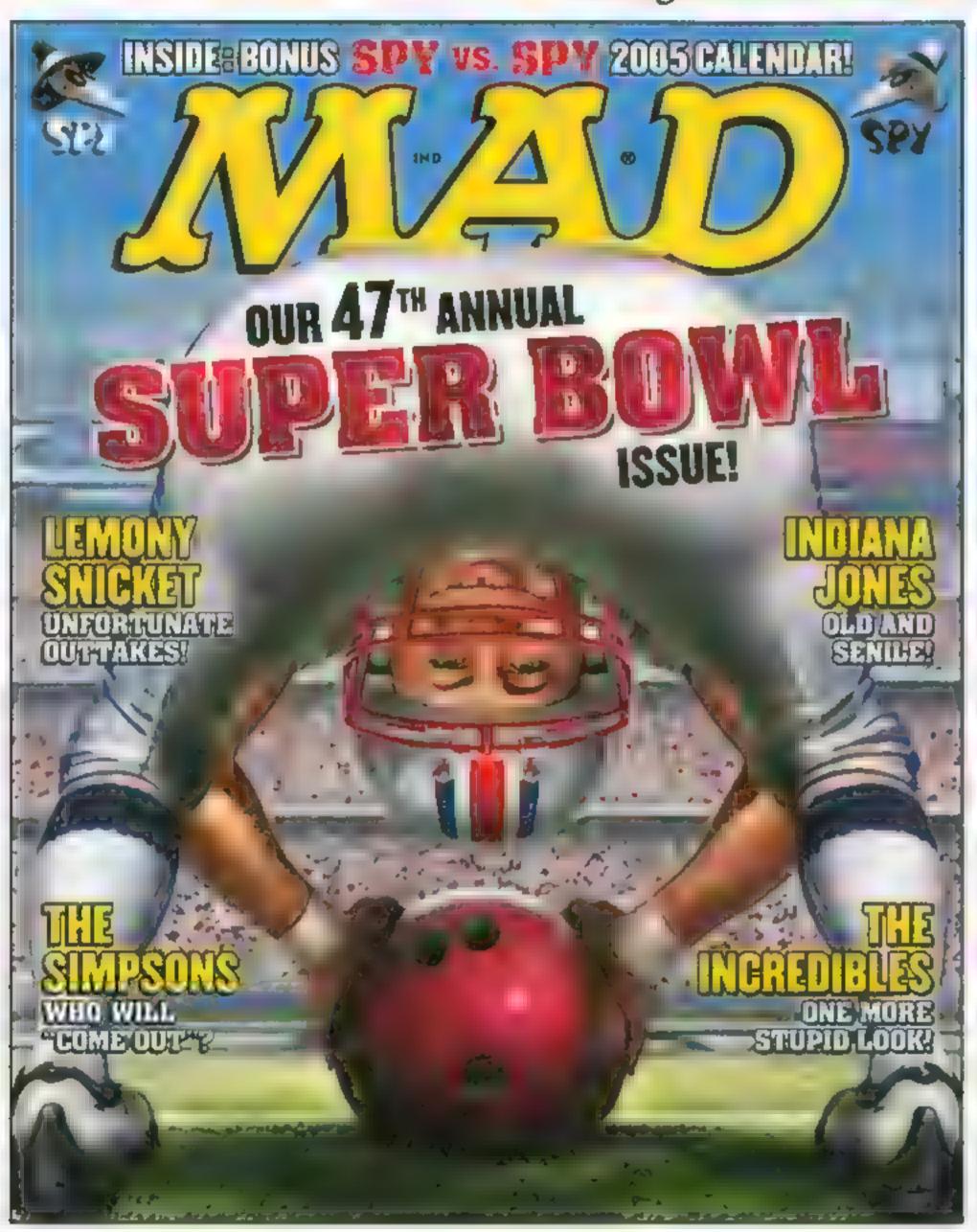


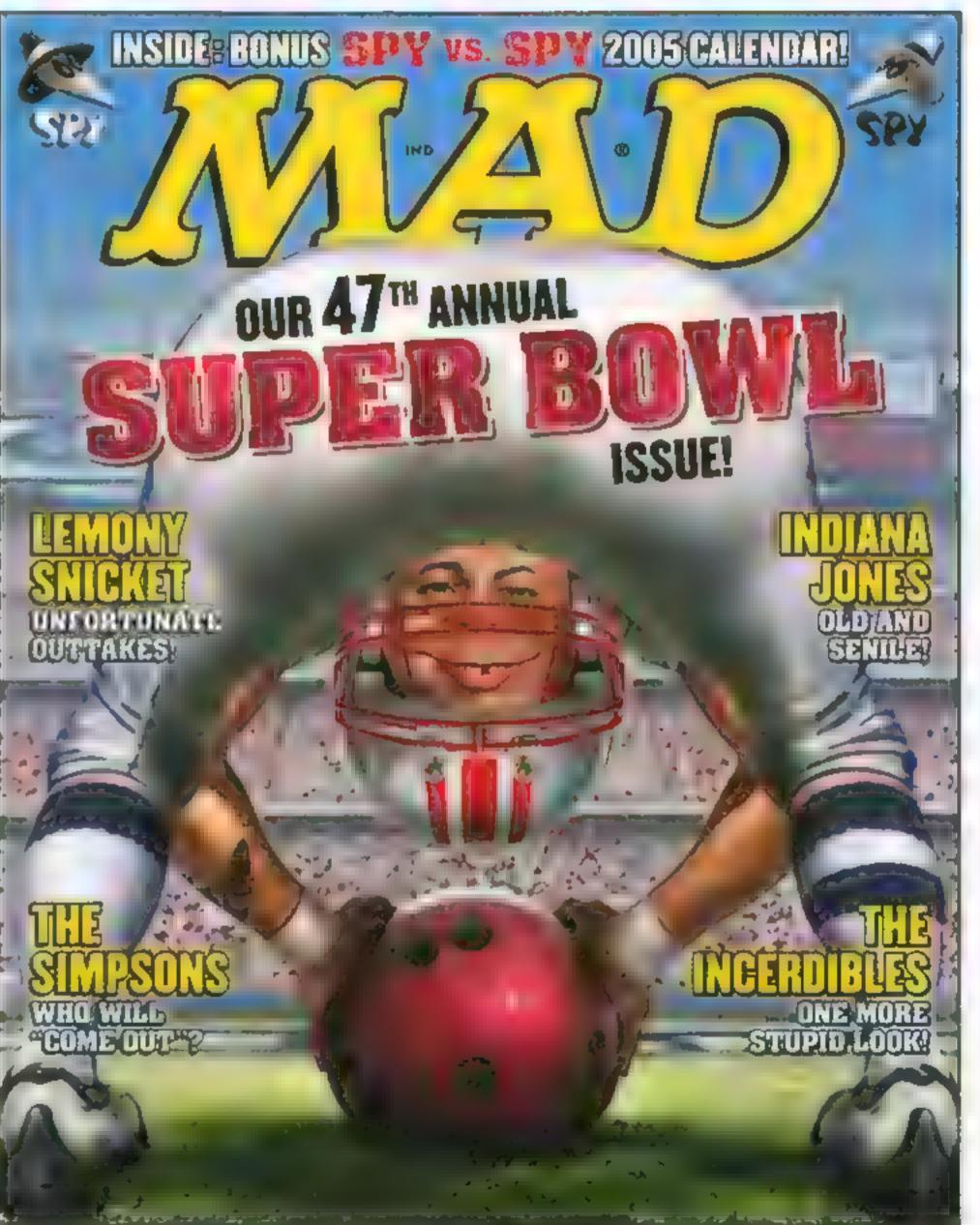




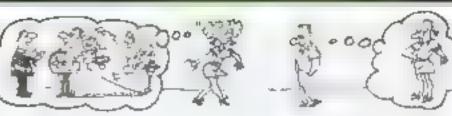
WHAT THE HECKISTHE DUFFERENCE?

Can you find the idiotic changes we've made to this magazine cover?





1) Alfred's head is right-side-up. 2) His face mask is flipped around, too! 3) All three stripes on the helmet are now red. 4) There's an extra hole in the bowling ball. 5) There's an extra stripe on the right sock.
 6) Alfred has a Spy tattoo on his left arm. 7) There's an extra seam in the middle of Alfred's pants.
 8) The closest yard marker is missing on the field, 9) "The incredibles" is misspelied.





When picking a psychic you have to be careful if you rush into things, you might end up with a phoney baloney fortune teller that's completely full of crap! But if you do your research, you'll wind up with a phoney baloney fortune teller who's just mostly full of crap! It's a delicate science to pick the frauds from the superfrauds, and MAD is happy to provide these

thinks about starting a band, but Your Kooky neighbor, um, I can't Remember his name-but it's NOT MR. Roper-he causes a stink, and then...

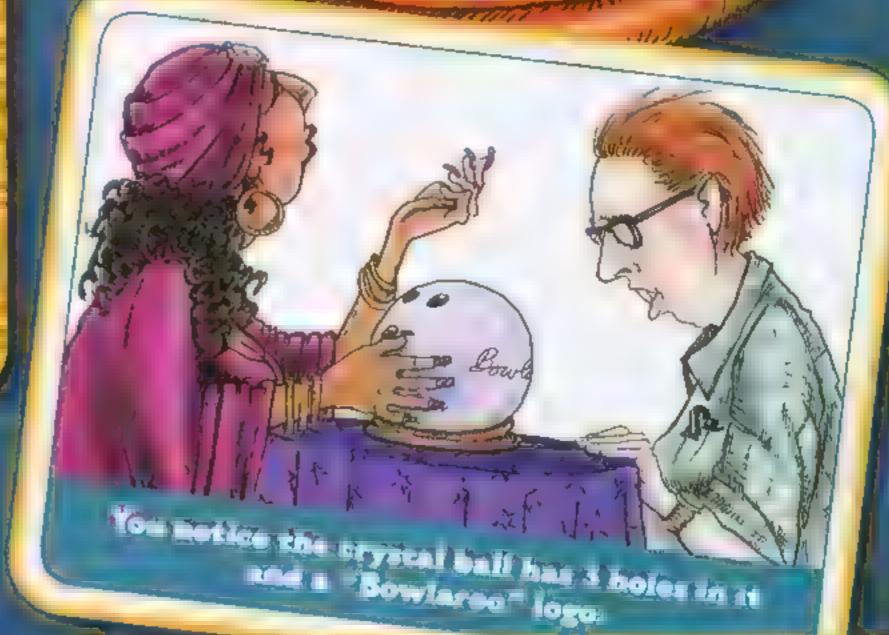


He predicts what you know, episode of Growing Pains.

Gosh, I wonder if that's Aunt Helen coming through?

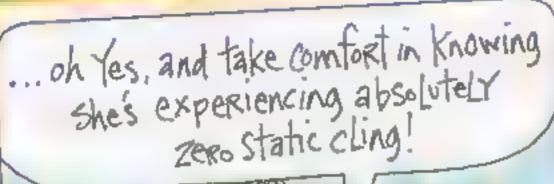
His trance state tovolves . lot of snorths

THAT YOU'VE GOT



Oh! I can feel it!

Your lucky numbers are sensed





Wow. So I'm gonna

have to Pee soon, huh?

your missing cousin reveals she

is somewhere Downy fresh.



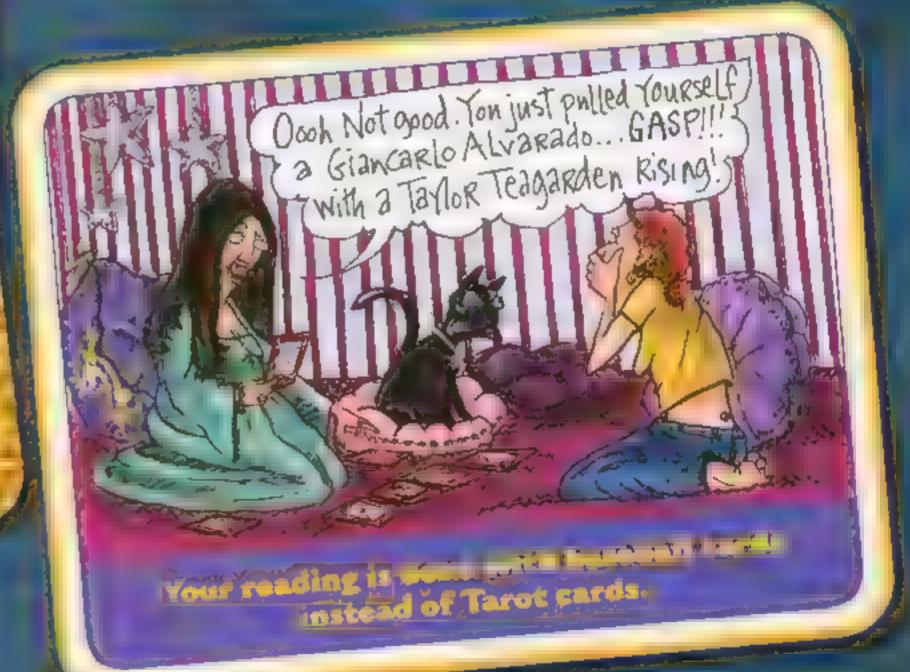
She can only predict twenty minutes into the future

> WRITER AND ARTIST TERESA BURNS PARKHURST





All the dead people you want to contact mysteriously "have laryngitis."



RACK AROUND THE CLOCK DEPT3

The news media typically reviews a new President's performance after his first 100 days in office, using it as a barometer to measure the Commander-in-Chief's effectiveness. We say pshaw! (And that's not so easy to say!) MAD believes we can find out everything we'll need to know about Barack by reviewing...

Minutes of the oana Presidency

WRITERS BILL FIBBERS AND FRANK SANTOPADRE

ARTIST DREW FRIEDMAN

00: Finish up inaugural address

01-02: Round up Michelle and kids, give finger to Bush and Cheney, head to Oval Office



03: Remove stupid flag pin from lapel

04: Rescind order that all White House TVs be set to FOX News

05-06: Send thank you note to George Bush for helping me get elected

07: Schedule weekly brunch with Bill Ayers

08: Submit Keith Olbermann's name for Presidential Medal of Freedom

09: Fill out change of address forms

10-13: Sneak out to Rose Garden for a quick smoke



14-16: Watch trailer for new Star Trek movie

17-19: Begin fundraising for 2012 campaign

20: Reject request for exclusive interview with Black President magazine

21-22: Pressure Harry Reid to appoint Jeremiah Wright new Chaplain of the Senate

23-24: Scrape eight years worth of chewing gum off the bottom of the Oval Office desk



25: Go on Facebook; put out a friend request to Ahmadinejad (with no preconditions)

26: Remind Biden to "shut his f*#king cakehole"

27: Check Amazon's ranking of The Audacity of Hope

28-30: Organize pick-up basketball game with Supreme Court: Robes vs. Skins



31-34: Sneak out to Rose Garden for a quick smoke

35: Decline Barney Frank's invitation to Sex and the City marathon

36-37: Make some calls; arrange for Cheney to be put up at Walter Reed after his next heart attack

38: Screw with Secret Service agents by shouting out, "Hey, it's almost prayer time, which way is Mecca?!"

39: Send mash note to Doris Kearns Goodwin

40-41: Line new puppy cage with worthless GM stock



42: Call Oprah, put her on hold just to mess with her



43: Send mother-in-law packing to an "undisclosed location"

44: Turn down Ed McMahon's bailout request

45-48: Sneak out to Rose Garden for a quick smoke

49-51: Give SNL's Fred Armisen some pointers on his lame Obama impression

52: Tell Rahm Emanuel to hold off sending dead fish to Joe Lieberman

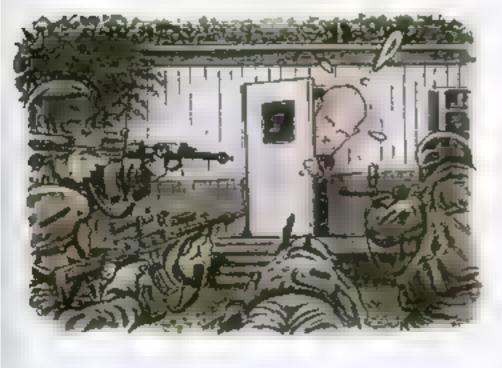


53-57: Send note to every girl who rejected him in high school on stationery marked "Office of the President of the United States"

58: Order I.R.S. super-audit of Sean Hannity

59-60: Look into getting discount on that Obama Presidential Coin Set

61-62: Pull CIA Black Ops forces out of Iraq; send them to Joe the Plumber's house



63-64: Turn down Bush's request to donate to his "Presidenshul Liberry"

65-67: Delete "private" Scarlett
Johansson photos before surrendering
Blackberry to Secret Service

68: Plan first extended Camp David vacation to coincide with March Madness

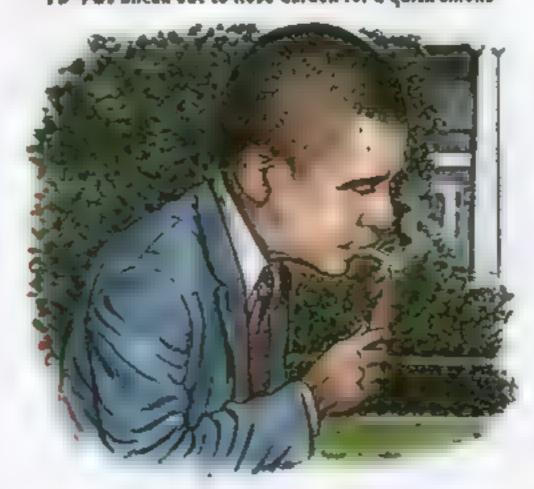
69-72: Try to break 70 on Guitar Hero



73: Go on Facebook; poke Hugo Chavez

74: Have FBI investigate rumor that Henry Paulson spent two billion of bailout money on lottery scratch-off tickets

75-78: Sneak out to Rose Garden for a quick smoke



79: Deny Bill Clinton's request for round-the-clock Lincoln Bedroom access

80: Submit Tom Daschle's name as a contestant on *Deal or No Deal* as way of helping balance budget

81-82: Get Michelle to ditch J. Crew and start dressing more like Beyoncé



83: Sign executive order authorizing Delta Force to cut off Jesse Jackson's nuts

84: Just to be different, appoint staff members based on intellect and competence

85: Rescind Bush order to drill for oil in Arlington National Cemetery

86: Send *Dreams From My Father* screenplay to Denzel Washington

87: Set alarm for 3 a.m. in order to crank call Hillary



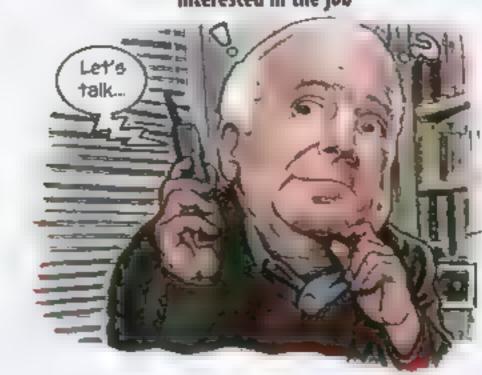
88: Politely decline Xzibit's offer to "Pimp My Presidential Ride" by adding spinning rims

89: Remove dunking stool, iron maiden and other "conversation pieces" from Cheney's office

90: Pardon Mike Myers for The Love Guru

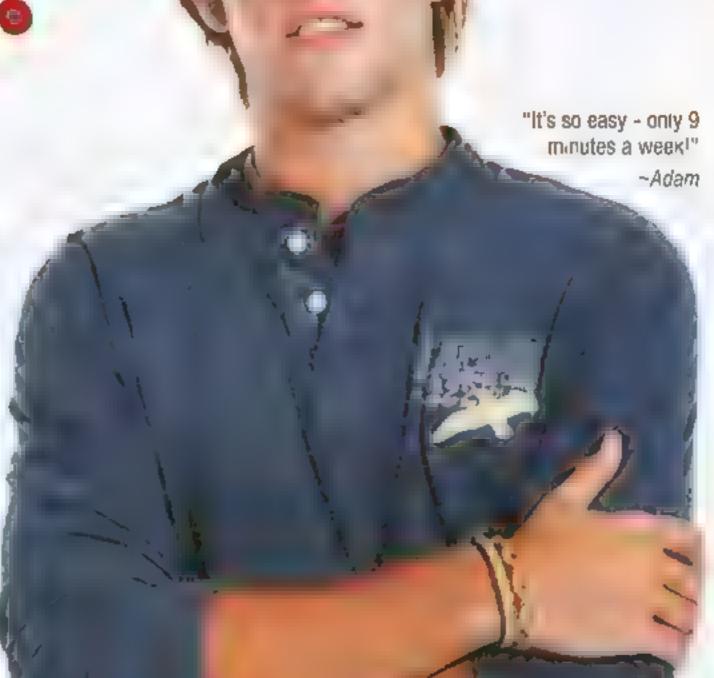
91-99: Do a little blow

100: Call John McCain, see if he's still interested in the job



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WHAT TRANSITION
OF POWER ARE
MANY AMERICANS
STILL FEELING
UNEASY ABOUT?

HERE WE GO WITH ANOTHER RIDICULOUS

In the coming months, there will be a shift in leadership that has some hopeful, but many concerned. Although change can be good, if it's not handled well, then it is certainly no laughing matter. To find what conversion has some people staying up late at night, fold page in as shown.



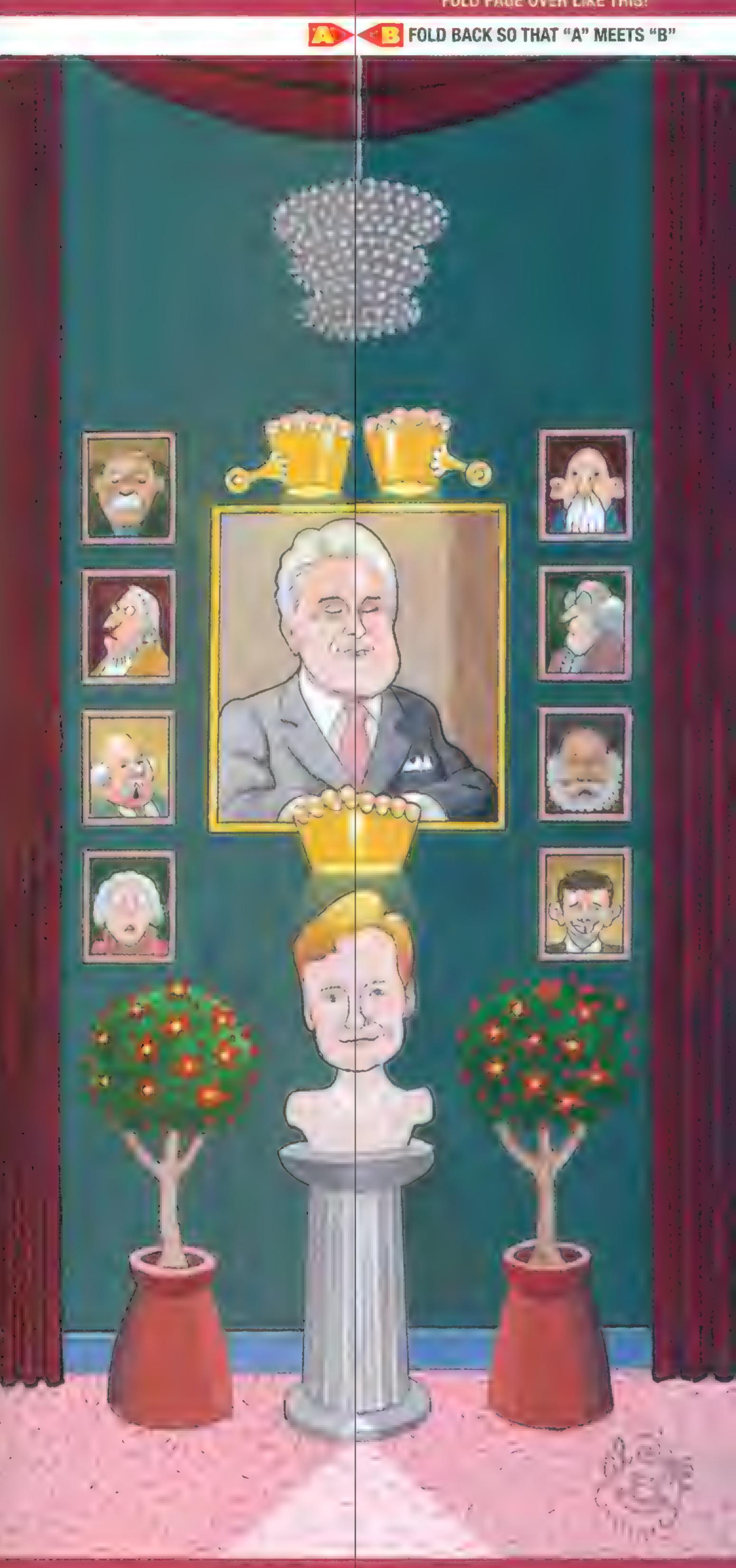


LET'S GET USED TO THE FACT THAT THERE IS NO WAY TO STOP CHANGE THE ONLY WAY TO CONTINUE IS FOR ALL TO DO THE BEST THEY CAN

WHAT TRANSITION
OF POWER ARE
MANY AMERICANS
STILL FEELING
UNEASY ABOUT?



FOLD PAGE OVER LIKE THIS!



LE NO TO CONAN























PRODUCTS RANGE FROM EVERYONE TO TEEN Committee Finel Fantaey VIII

EVERYWHERE JUST GOT BETTER

Whoever you are. Wherever you play. Whatever you're into. The PSPe-3000 system will get you where you want to go. Built around an ultra-crisp and super-widescreen display, there's simply no better way to play all the best games and biggest movies. So check out our lineup and grab yourself a PSP system. Because everywhere just got better.







PlayStation,Portable

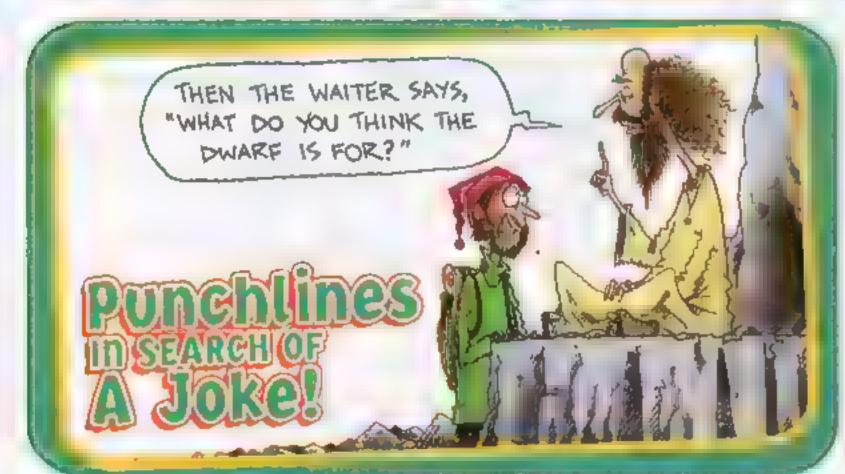
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THE FUNDALINI PAGES

POSITIVE ASPECTS OF THE ECONOMIC MELTDOWN

- Your excuse to mooching beggars that you don't have any money will, for once, be believable.
- You can take your credit cards on a no-holds-barred, take-no-prisoners shopping spree, secure in the knowledge that by the time the bills are due, most of the stores will have gone out of business.
- Your suggestion to your parents that they should have Angelina Jolie adopt your kid brother will at last be given serious consideration.
- Your cash-strapped parents won't be so argumentative when you tell them you want to drop out of college.
- Just the sight of pompous stock brokers on the unemployment line is worth a dozen Depressions.









This Month TYRA BANKS Cannibalized by starving America's Next Top Model contestants......2:1 Mauled to death after mistaking a live badger for one of her many, many wigs....4:1 Fatal dehydration from all the crocodile tears shed for guests......8:1

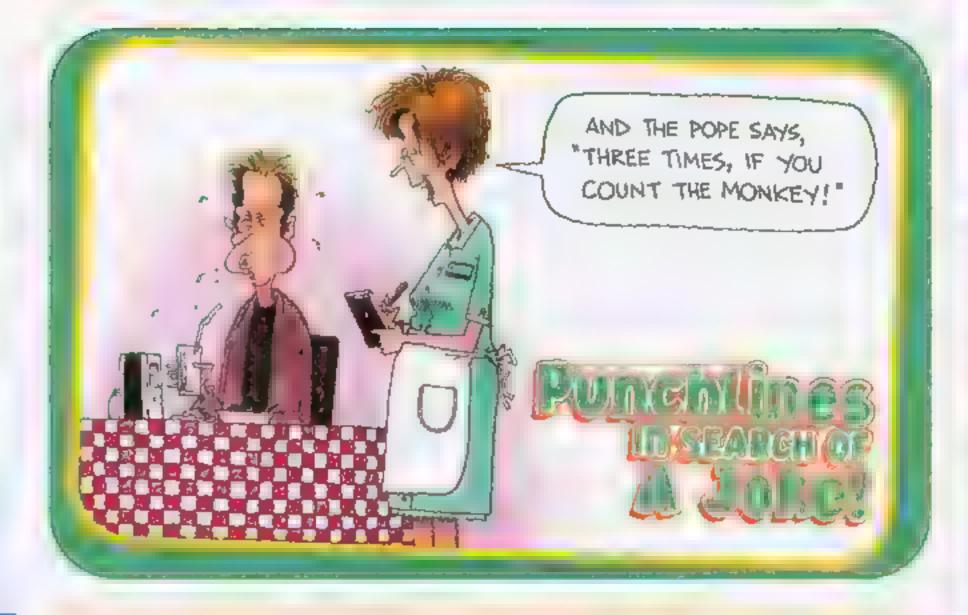
Suicide after one too many people mistake her for RuPaul

Ways to Make Sure You Don't Lose Your Job in These Tough Times!

- 1. Stress to your boss that you're a team player. Be sure to point out other employees who are not team players and who should be let go immediately.
- 2. Be agreeable. Laugh at everything your boss says. Be sure to listen carefully, though, just in case.

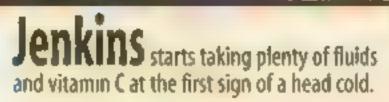


- 3. Loudly comment, "I don't know what I'd do if I lost this job. I'd probably come back with a shotgun and blow off the head of every freakin' person who works here!"
- 4. Always be conscious of your boss' needs. In the men's room, hand your boss a paper towel and brush off any lint you might see on his jacket. This shows respect and it's excellent practice if you get fired and have to get a job as a men's room attendant!
- 5. Being part of a professional organization can raise your profile and increase your stature in a company. Joining the mafia, however, is never a good idea.
- 6. Since budgets will be scrutinized much more carefully, embezzle less.



MELVIN & JENKINS' GUIDE TO COLD SYMPTOMS

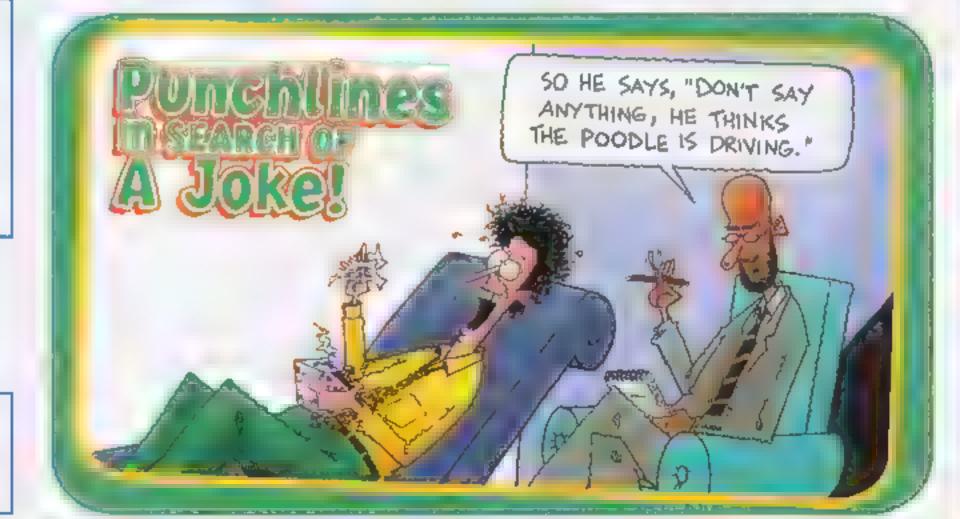


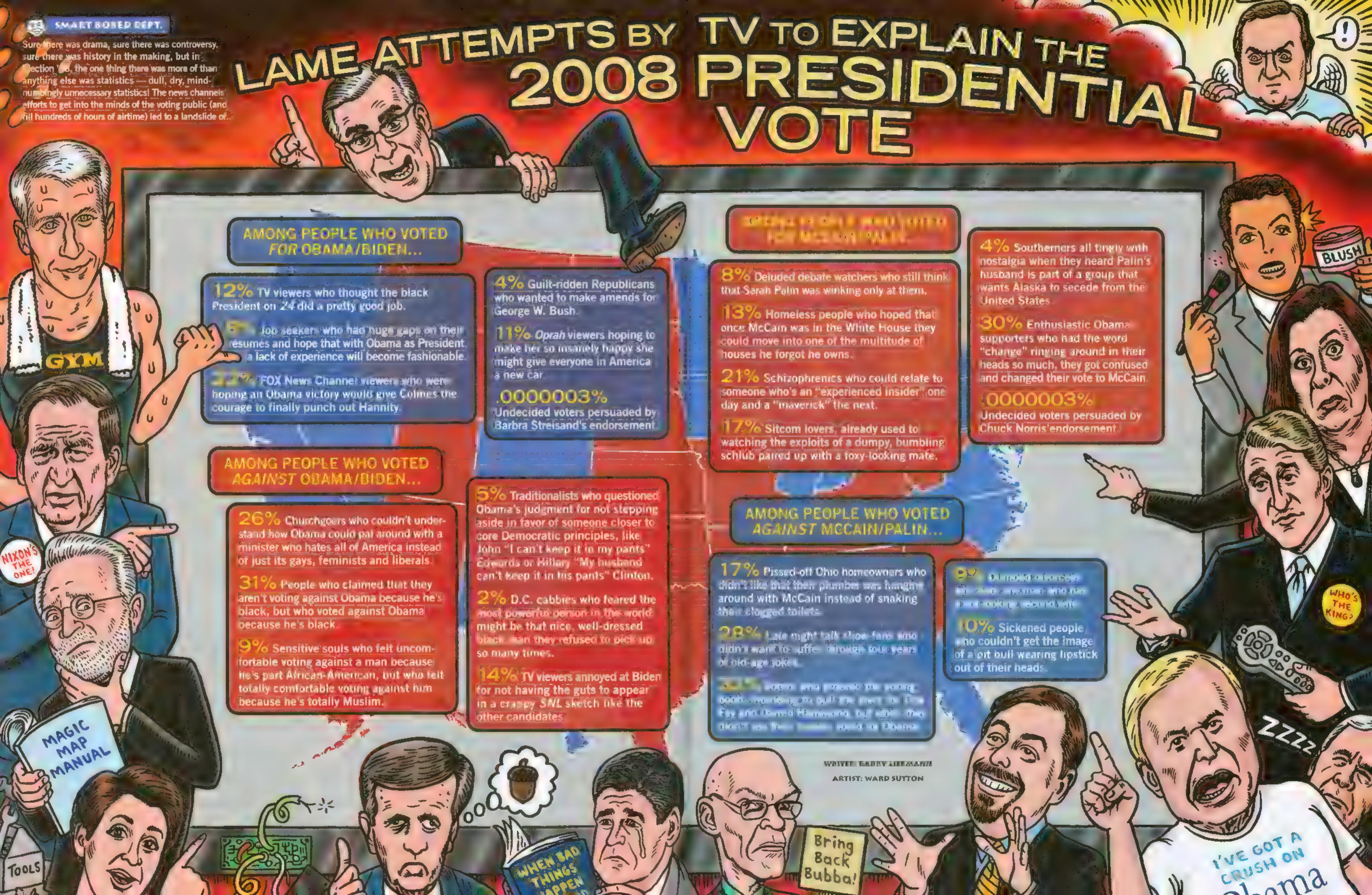


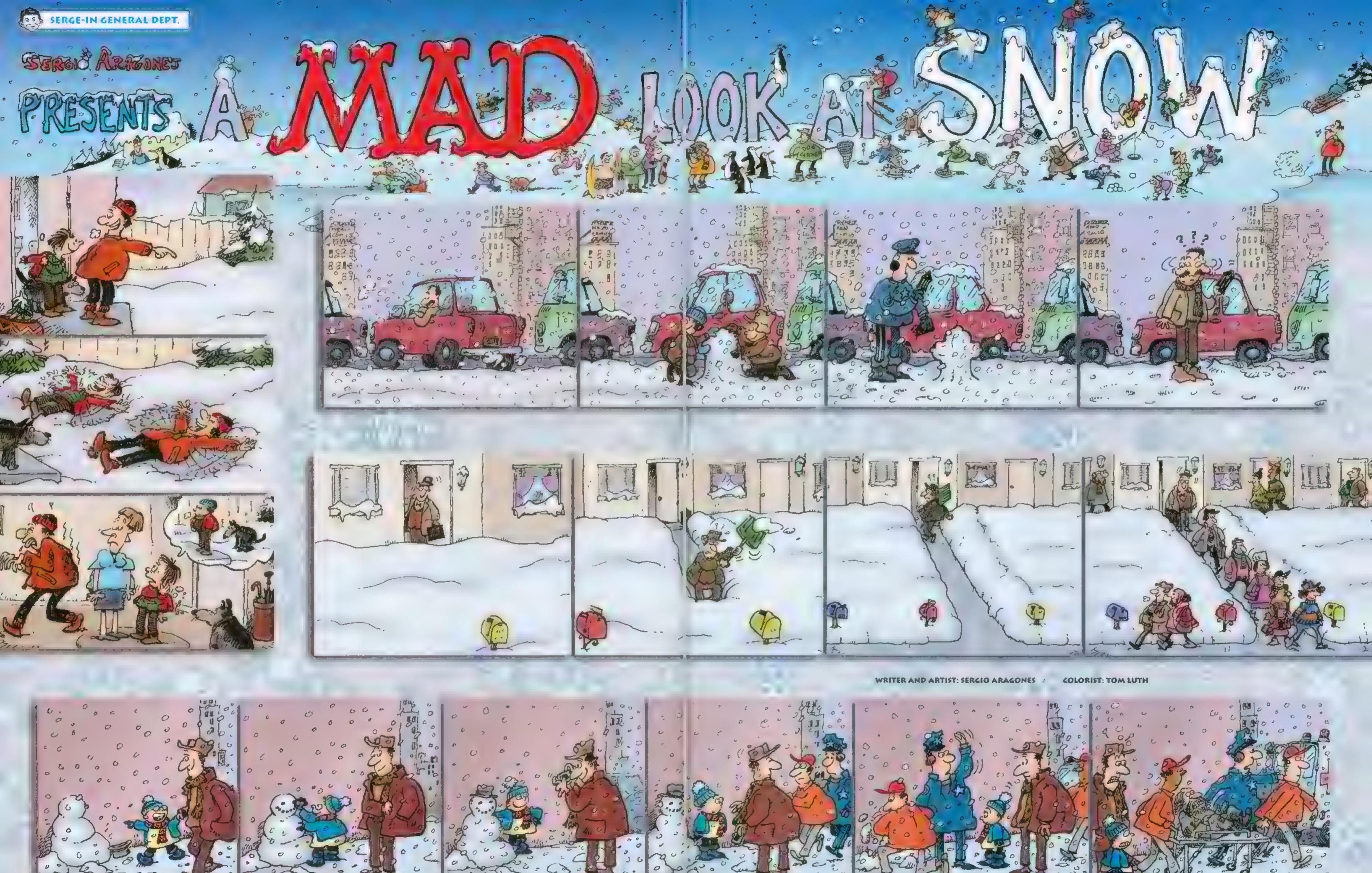


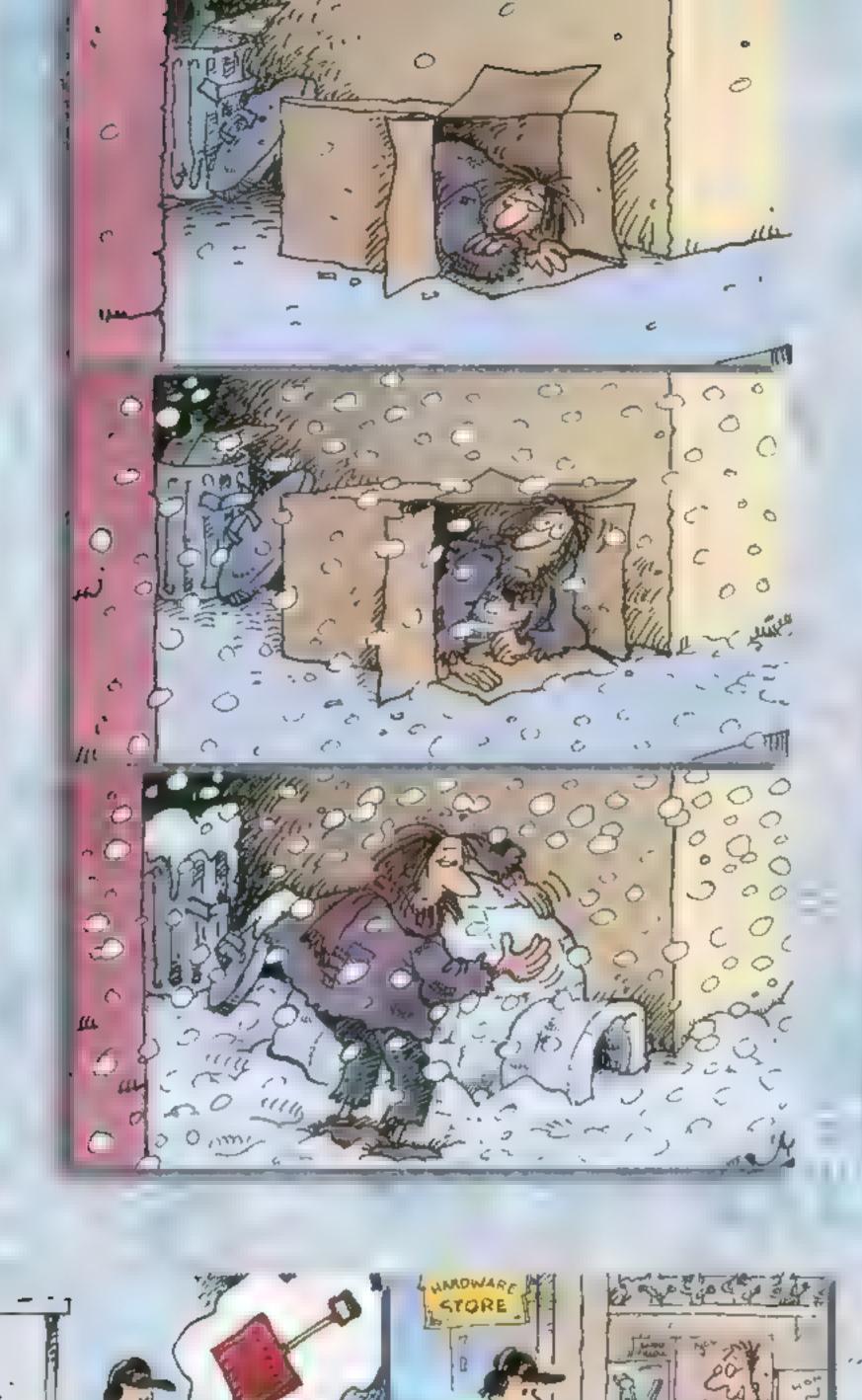
Melvin is just one flu season away from completing his boogersnot "Mona Lisa."





















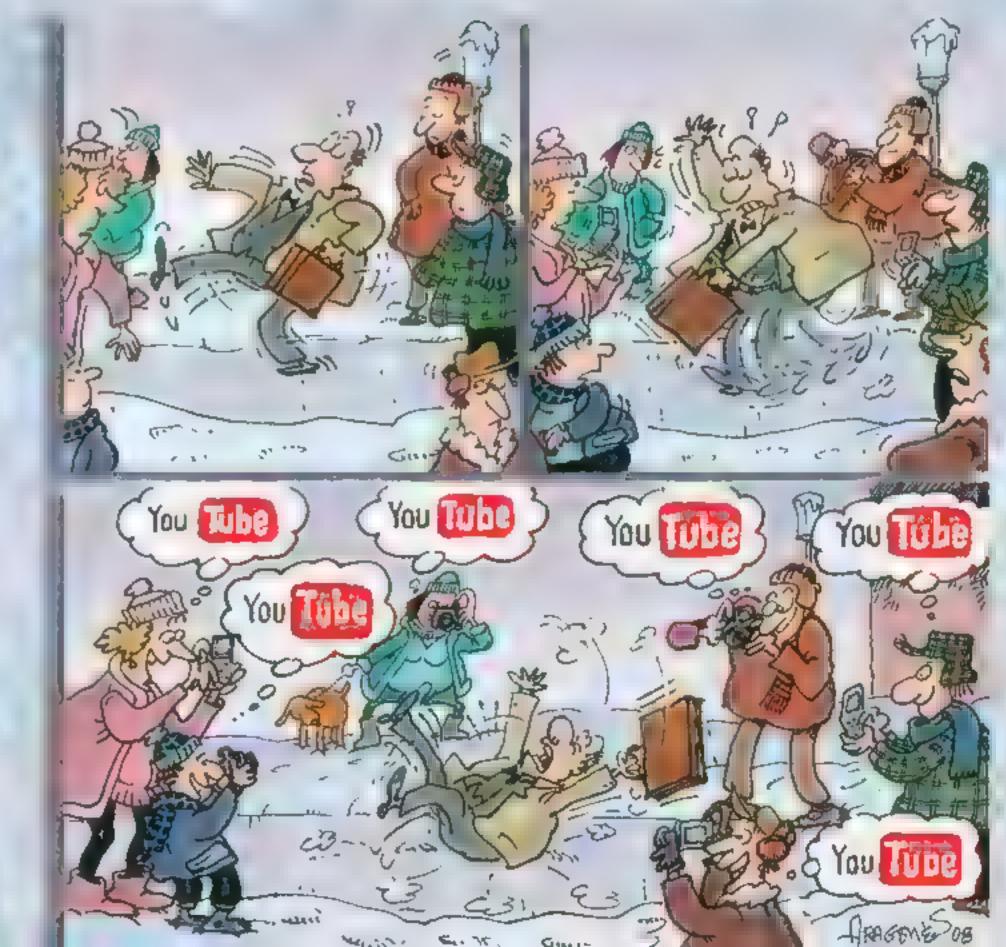






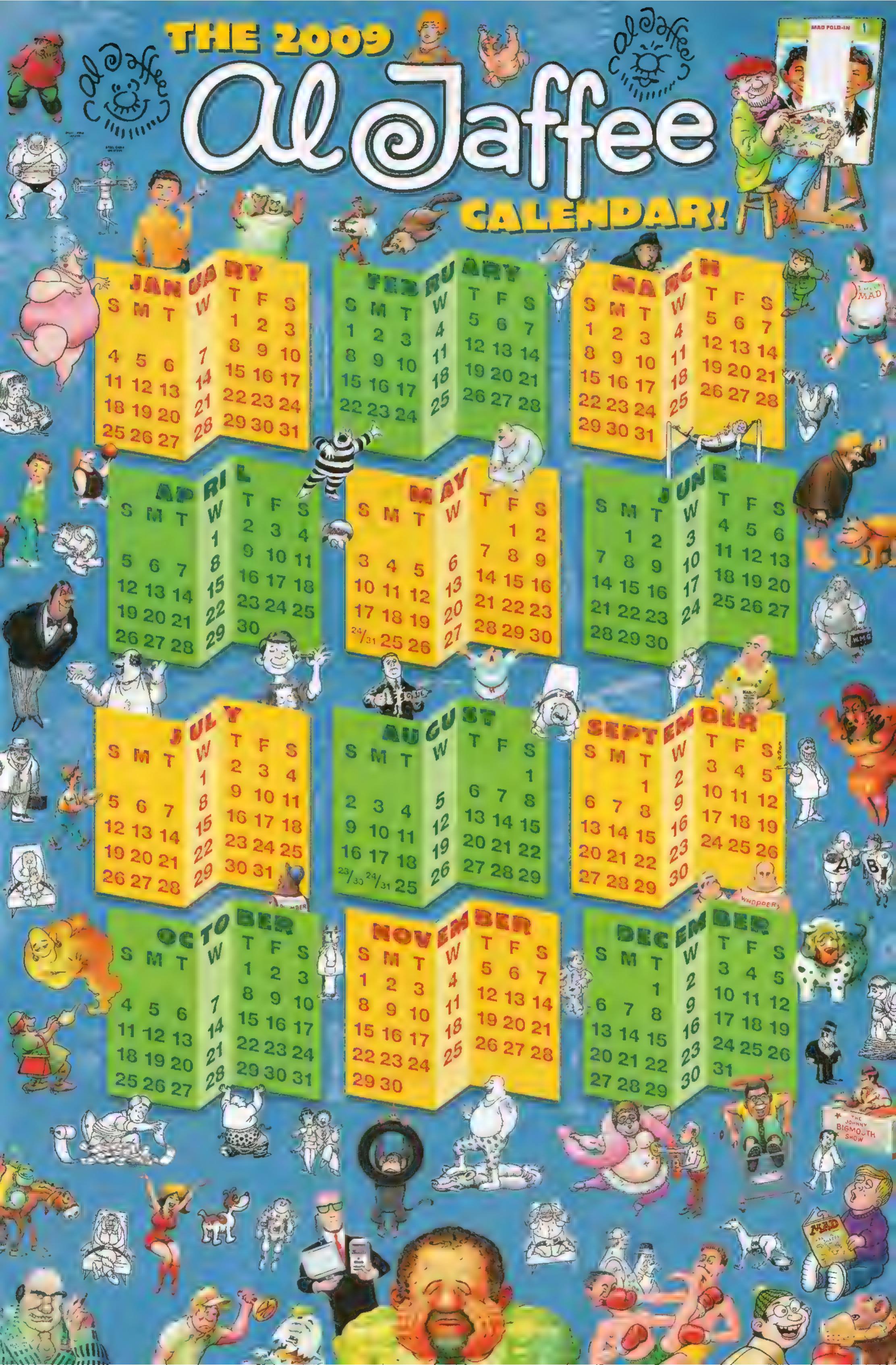






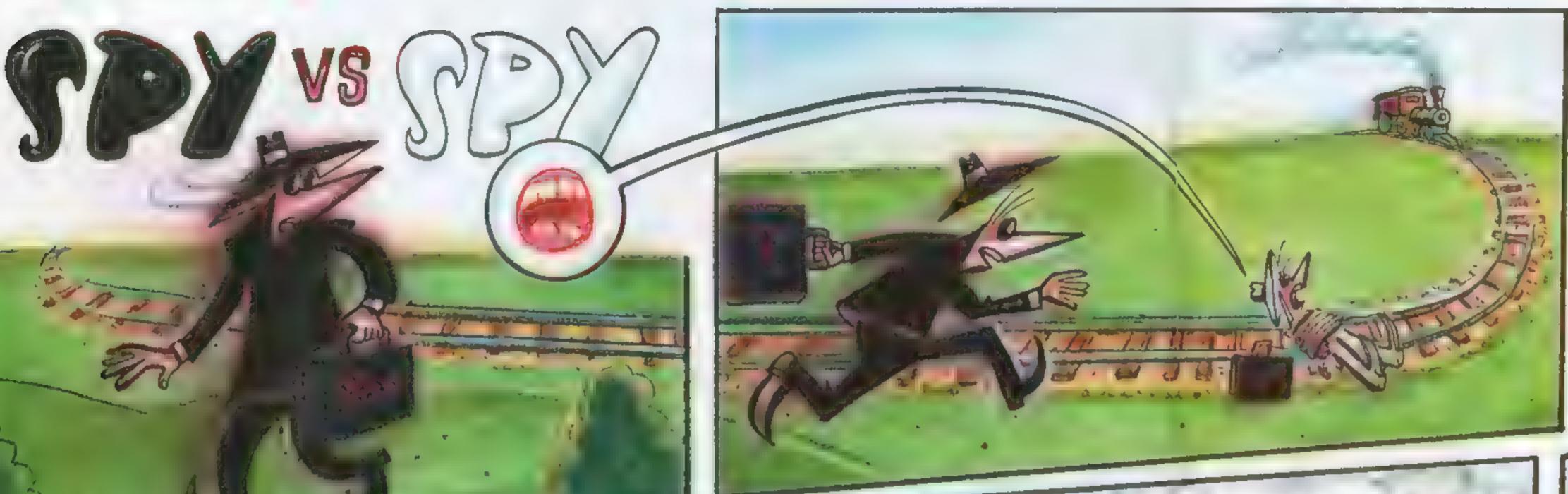










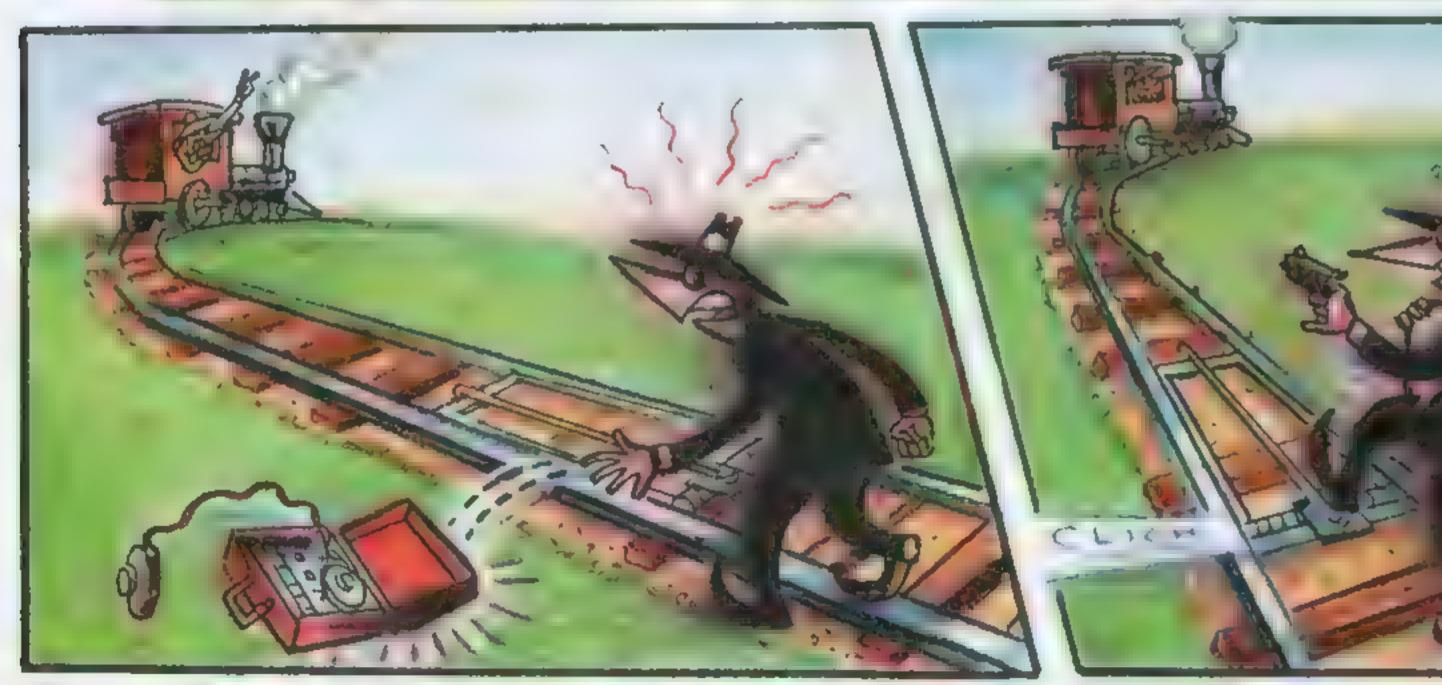




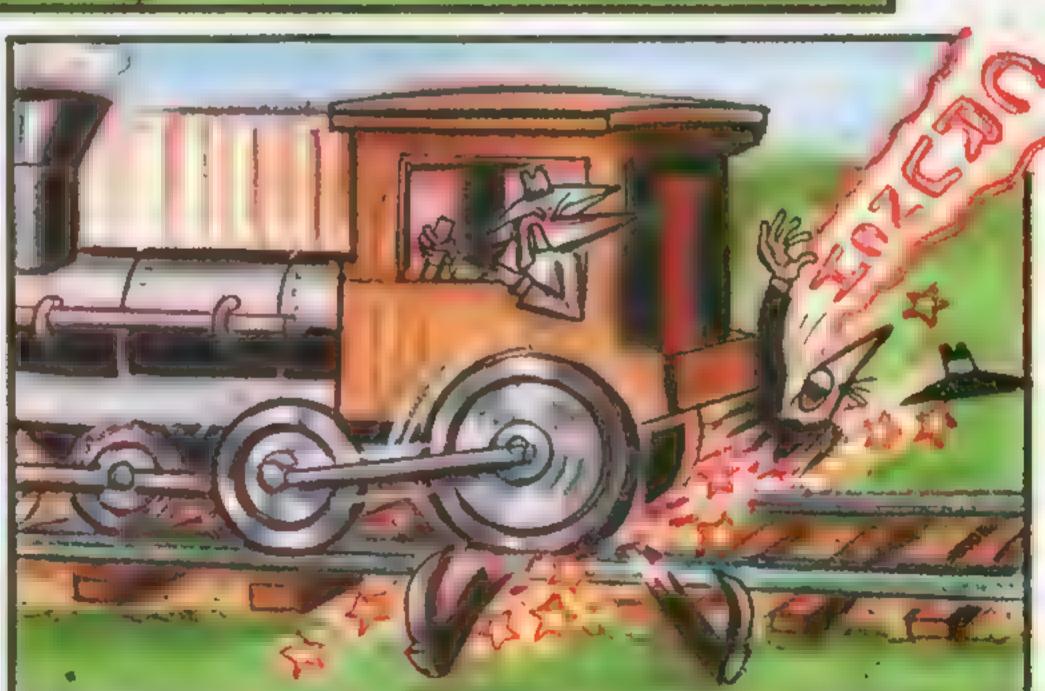












WRITER AND ARTIST PETER KUPER

When you say or do stuff that adults don't like or understand (which, let's face it, is all the time) they're quick to criticize and let you know how much more "evolved" they were back when they were "your age." The truth, of course, is that they were far more moronic than you ever were or will be - and you'd be doing them a BIG favor by pointing that out! So remember:

I respected my elders

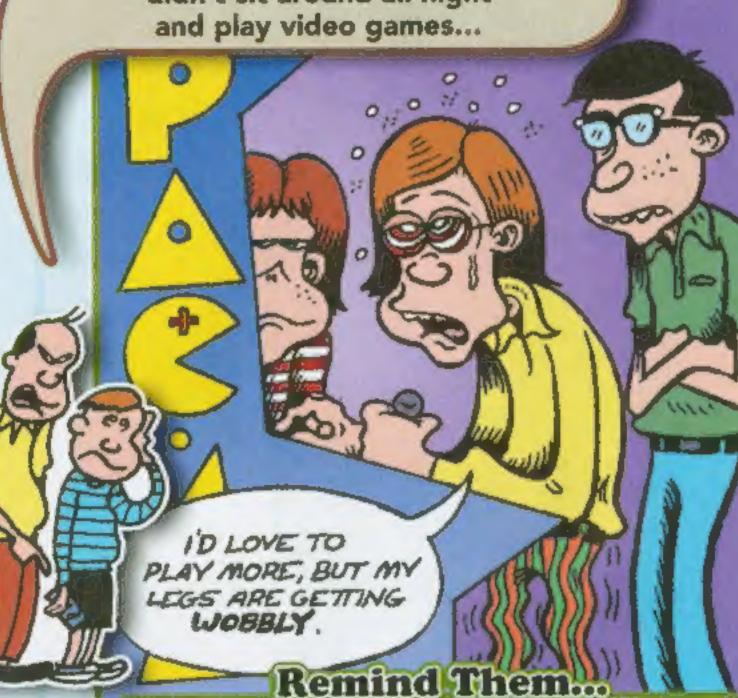
when I was your age...

Addits Sayoo

WRITER: JACOB LAMBERT ARTIST: PETER BAGGE The Moo

When Adults Say.... When Adults Say....

When I was young we didn't sit around all night and play video games...



... They had to stand around all night and play video games.



Remind Them...

...Back then, it was still okay

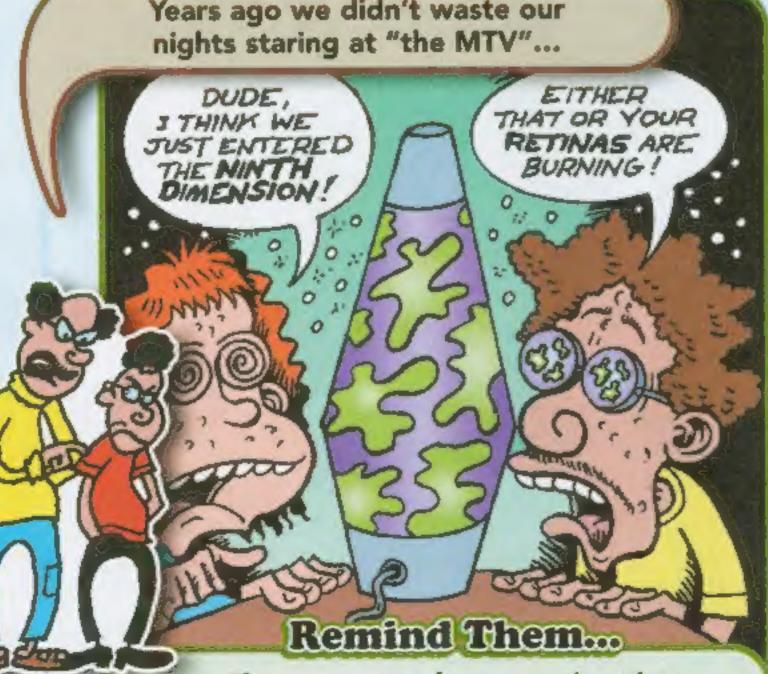
to whip the living crap out of kids.

When Adults Say.... In my day we didn't wear our pants around our butts... Remind Them...

> ... That's because it would've interfered with the noble sweep of their bellbottoms.

When Adults Say....

Years ago we didn't waste our



... They were too busy wasting time staring at the "multiverse" in their lava lamps.

You don't appreciate all that our generation has done for yours... HAD TO DIP BUT HOW COULD I PASS UP A CHANCE NTO MY NEWBORN'S COLLEGE FUND TO TO BUY THIS AWESOME PAY FOR IT ... MONSTER TRUCK?

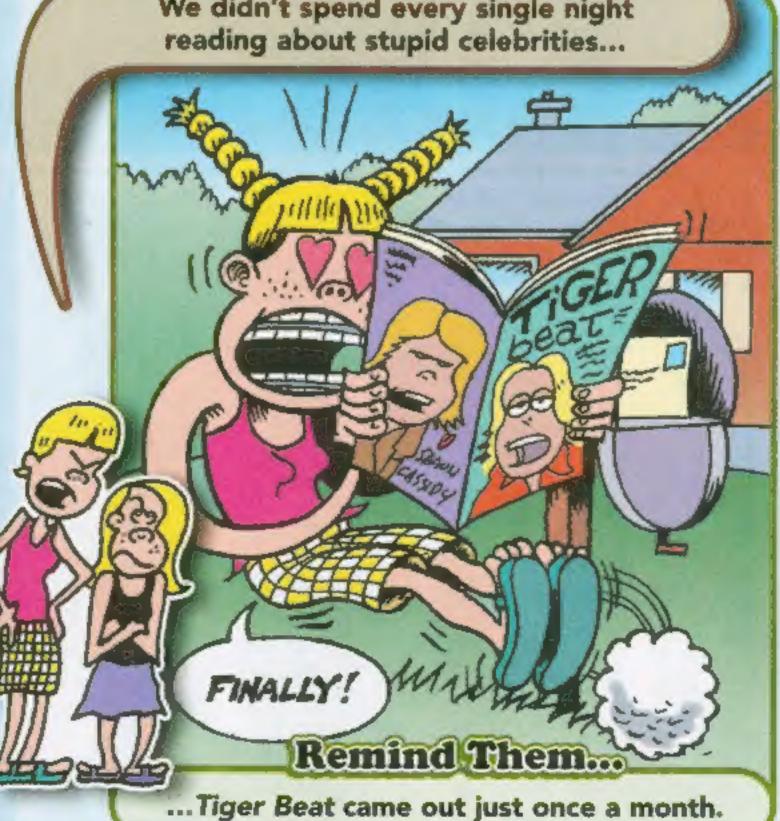
When Adults Say....

...You would, but you're not sure that global warming, war and crushing student loans are actually good things.

Remind Them.

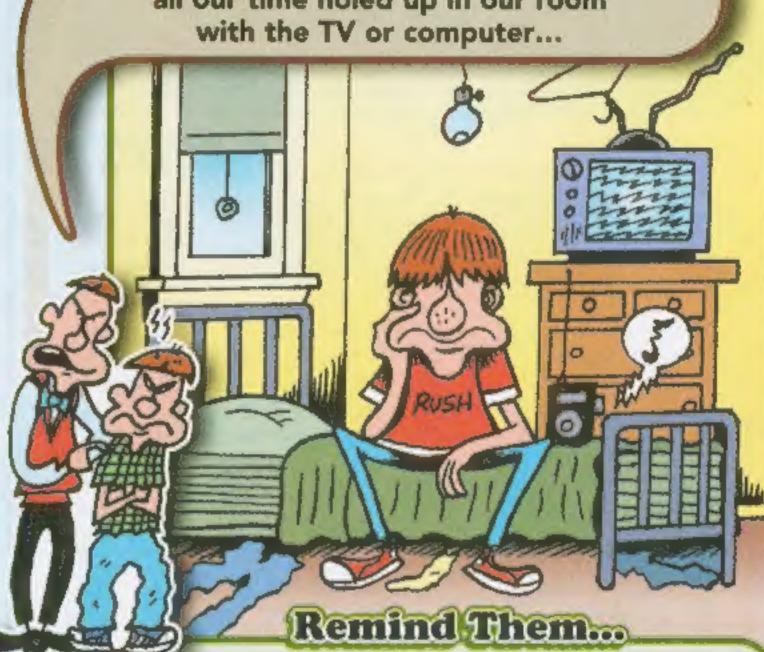
When Adults Say....

We didn't spend every single night



When Adults Say....

In the old days we didn't spend all our time holed up in our room with the TV or computer...



...Their bedroom "entertainment system" consisted of a 14-inch black and white television and a transistor radio with an earpiece.

When Adults Say....

Today's video games are pointless and dumb... THE DOT'S GOING THE OTHER WAY LOOK ! NOW! 00000 Remind Them...

...They spent two years of their life absorbed by the hair-raising thrill of Pong.





IT'S REIGNING CATS AND DOGS DEPT.

The MAD WORLDoft...





WRITER: STAN SINBERG

ARTIST: MARC HEMPEL



A totally automated selfcleaning kitty toilet. Every few hours it cleans itself

and deodorizes the litter!

What's that?









